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National Contact Point for Research Infrastructures
(RIs) in Russia

The National University of S&T MISIS



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INDO-RUSSIAN JOINT CALL FOR PROPOSALS 2016

Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India and Ministry of Education and Science (RMES) of Russian Federation have concluded a Program of Cooperation (POC) for funding of Joint Research Proposals in India and Russia in the areas of Applied Science.

DST and RMES invite Indian and Russian scientists / researchers to submit proposals for Joint Research Project in the following areas of applied sciences under DST-RMES cooperation:

- Energy & Environment;
- Manufacturing Technology;
- Information & Communication Technologies
- Earth Sciences
- Oceanology
- Seismology

Opening date: 26 September 2016, **Deadline: 31 December 2016 (for Indian researchers)**
28 November (for Russian researchers)

List of selected projects will be posted on website www.dst.gov.in and www.mon.gov.ru in April-May, 2017
Russian and Indian teams should comply to national regulations described in the call documentation.

Expected start of projects: June, 2017

For further details and clarifications:

<http://www.dst.gov.in/callforproposals/indo-russian-joint-research-call-proposals-2016>

[http://www.dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/RMES_call_DST-2016%202 .pdf](http://www.dst.gov.in/sites/default/files/RMES_call_DST-2016%202.pdf)

and

http://fcpir.ru/participation_in_program/contests/list_of_contests/1_published/2017-14-585-0003/



SECOND JOINT CALL FOR GERMAN-RUSSIAN PROJECT PROPOSALS IN LIFE SCIENCES, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

The German Research Foundation (DFG) and the Russian Science Foundation (RSF) launched a new call for proposals in the fields of Life Sciences, Social Sciences and Humanities **on 15 September 2016**.

Deadline: 12 December 2016.

Following up on a successful first round in Physics and Mathematics in 2015 DFG and RSF now want to extend their common activities to cover new disciplines.

The aims of the call are:

- to support research in the above mentioned disciplines carried out by German-Russian teams
- to strengthen cooperation between Russian and German researchers in basic (knowledge-oriented) research

All proposals will be reviewed by both organizations separately. The results of the review process will be shared between the agencies. Support will be granted for those proposals where both DFG and RSF recommend funding.

A next round including all fields of science (Social Sciences and Humanities, Life Sciences, Natural Sciences and Engineering) is foreseen for 2017.

More information for German applicants:

http://www.dfg.de/en/research_funding/announcements_proposals/info_wissenschaft_16_56/index.html

for **Russian applicants:** http://www.rfbr.ru/rffi/ru/contest/o_1930304

The projects for the following areas of expertise could be submitted to calls:

- (01) Mathematics, mechanics and computer science;
- (02) Physics and Astronomy;
- (03) Chemistry and materials science;
- (04) Biology and medical science;
- (05) Earth Sciences;
- (06) Natural scientific research methods in the humanities;
- (07) Information and communication technology and computer systems;
- (08) Fundamentals of engineering sciences.

Project duration - 1, 2, 3 and 4 years

I. Joint Call with German Research Foundation (DFG)

Detailed information for Russian applicants: http://www.rfbr.ru/rffi/ru/contest/o_1930304

for German applicants:

http://www.dfg.de/foerderung/internationale_zusammenarbeit/foerderung_international/laender_regionen/index.html

http://www.dfg.de/download/pdf/dfg_im_profil/internationales/partner/information_antraege_rfbr.pdf

German side RFBF Call Coordinator Dr. Christian Schaich, Tel.: +49 (0) 30 206121-4329,
Telefax: +49 (30) 206121-4377, e-mail: Christian.Schaich@dfg.de



II. Joint Call with Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)

Deadline: 01/03/2017

Detailed information for Russian applicants: http://www.rfbr.ru/rffi/ru/contest/o_1923689

CNRS: International Relations Department, Gulnara Le Torrivellec, Project manager for Bilateral Europe: Eastern Europe, Russia & NIS, DERC Tel.: +33(0)1 44 96 44 53/ Fax: 01; 44 96 48 56; e-mail: gulnara.letorrivellec@cncs-dir.fr



Der Wissenschaftsfonds.

III. Joint Call with FWF Austrian Science Fund

Deadline: 01/02/2017

More information: Beatrice Lawal, Internationale Programme, Haus der Forschung 1090 Wien, Sensengasse 1; T: +43/1-505 67 40-8703; beatrice.lawal@fwf.ac.at; www.fwf.ac.at

Detailed information for Russian applicants: http://www.rfbr.ru/rffi/ru/contest/o_1930312



RUSSIA AND GREECE SIGN AN AGREEMENT ON S&T COOPERATION 11 NOVEMBER 2016

Minister of Education and Science of the Russian Federation O. Yu. Vasilieva and First Deputy Minister of Education in the field of Scientific Research and Innovation of Greece K. Fotakis signed an intergovernmental agreement on S&T cooperation between the two countries.

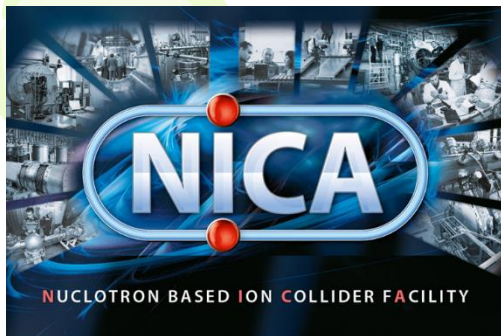
The solemn ceremony was held on November 11, 2016 in Athens in the Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs of Greece in the presence of Minister K. Gavroglu.

O. Yu. Vasilieva pointed out that signing the agreement meant further collaboration.

Deputy Minister for Scientific Research of Greece K. Fotakis pointed out that the country is interested in collaboration in energy, agriculture, health care, pharmaceuticals, culture and cultural heritage, its preservation through new technologies, as well as cooperation in the field of aircraft construction.

More information:

http://rbth.com/news/2016/11/11/russia-and-greece-sign-agreement-on-scientific-and-technical-cooperation_647005



PERSPECTIVES OF EXPERIMENTAL RESEARCH AT THE NUCLOTRON BEAMS

The 4th International Workshop on «Perspectives of Experimental Research at the Nuclotron Beams» was held on 6 October 2016 in the Joint Institute of Nuclear Physics.

It was noted that the Nuclotron had been working for 23 years, it was developed in difficult times, but in the latest decade it was significantly upgraded. It has become the basis for the NICA project.

NICA is the first Russian project included in the roadmap of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures ESFRI significantly supported and financed by the Government of Russia.

It is necessary to match European standards of “user policy” which means not only to provide experiments in full conformity with the applications, but also to comply with certain rules of time management, priorities and working conditions at facilities. Such meetings provide feedback between consumers of beams and their “suppliers”, allow one, as a result of comprehensive discussion, to understand what goes well and what needs correction.

After reports, on the milestones of the general discussion, representatives of the JINR Member States and consumers of the Nuclotron beams approved the resulting document of the Workshop, determining the development of the user policy and development of the accelerator complex in the nearest future.

More information: <http://www.jinr.ru/posts/perspectives-of-experimental-research-at-the-nuclotron-beams/>



DEVELOPMENT OF NICA – FAIR COOPERATION

The goal of the workshop is to present existing and potentially new collaboration topics of FAIR and NICA – both with regard to specific scientific and technological issues of mutual interest and also concerning joint efforts for promoting young researchers, in particular doctoral students and postdocs.

On 16 November 2016, in the Helmholtz Centre for Heavy Ion Research — GSI (Darmstadt, Germany) the Workshop “Perspectives for Joint Science and Academic Training at FAIR and NICA” was held.

The Workshop was attended by a representative delegation from JINR, leading members of the NICA Project. The German side was represented the important representatives of the FAIR project.

Both parties made reports on the main areas of fruitful cooperation in NICA and FAIR projects and prospects of the cooperation. On the results of the Workshop a joint Declaration on further development of cooperation between NICA and FAIR projects was signed.

More details:

<http://www.jinr.ru/posts/development-of-nica-fair-cooperation/>

V. “Study in Russia” website for foreign students was launched in the frame of 5/100 project

Project Office 5 -100 launches its new website <http://studyinrussia.ru/> to attract foreigners to study in Russian universities. For the first time all the necessary information about studying in the leading Russian universities is gathered on a single website.

Users are provided with a unique option to quickly look for a training program. The site currently contains descriptions of more than 2 800 programs of higher and postgraduate education. Another option is a step-by-step instruction for entering a Russian university, presented in the form of infographics. Applicants can easily find a list of required documents, information on quotas on free higher education, competitions and events in the field of education.

The site can help to quickly choose a university, a degree level and a field of study, as well as to learn about the cost of a particular program and even to take a Russian language proficiency test.

The information is given in three languages - Russian, English and Chinese.

The site has a page on all main social networks - Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, V-Kontakte, Google+, and You tube.

More information: <https://www.utmn.ru/en/media/news/education/215188/>



XI. The 5th «mega-grants» competition

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation announced an open grant competition for the international scientists cooperating with Russian institutions of higher education, scientific research organizations and governmental research centers of the Russian Federation.

The winners of the grant competition will receive grants of the Government of the Russian Federation in the amount of up to 90 million RUB each to be expended on implementation of research projects over the course of three years (2017 – 2019) with the possibility of being renewed for an additional two years.

The deadline for submission of grant applications is 12:00 Moscow time on May 31, 2016.

Applicants are invited to undertake the personal supervision of project progress by being physically presented at Russian host institution for a total of not less than 120 days in each year of the project implementation period.

More information: <http://p220.ru/en/>

Workshop on perspectives for Joint Science and Academic Training at FAIR and NICA November 16, 2016, GSI Darmstadt Development of NICA–FAIR cooperation

The goal of the workshop is to present existing and potentially new collaboration topics of FAIR and NICA – both with regard to specific scientific and technological issues of mutual interest and also concerning joint efforts for promoting young researchers, in particular doctoral students and postdocs.

On 16 November 2016, in the Helmholtz Centre for Heavy Ion Research — GSI (Darmstadt, Germany) the Workshop “Perspectives for Joint Science and Academic Training at FAIR and NICA” was held. The Workshop was attended by a representative delegation from JINR headed by JINR Director V.A. Matveev.

JINR Vice-Director G.V. Trubnikov, VBLHEP Director V.D. Kekelidze, UC Director S.Z. Pakuliak and other leading members of the NICA Project, including young scientists participated in the Workshop. The German side was represented by Deputy Director General of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research B. Vierkorn-Rudolf, Scientific Director of FAIR B.Yu. Sharkov, Scientific Director of GSI K. Langanke and other important representatives of the FAIR project. Both parties made reports on the main areas of fruitful cooperation in NICA and FAIR projects and prospects of the cooperation. On the results of the Workshop a joint Declaration on further development of cooperation between NICA and FAIR projects was signed.

<http://www.jinr.ru/posts/development-of-nica-fair-cooperation/>

Missions to Mars: exploration of the Red Planet

On October 19, 2016, the Russian-European ExoMars-2016 mission is landing the Schiaparelli module on Mars. ExoMars-2016 was launched from the Baikonur space center by a Proton-M carrier rocket on March 14. The mission comprises the Trace Gas Orbiter (TGO) and the Schiaparelli landing demonstrator module. Schiaparelli will operate on the Red Planet for several days until the energy capacity of its batteries is depleted. The ExoMars 2nd stage envisages sending a Russian landing platform and a European rover to the Red Planet in 2020. The mission’s 2nd stage will focus on drilling and analyzing Martian soil.

Roughly two-thirds of all spacecraft destined for Mars have failed without completing their missions, and it has a reputation as a difficult space exploration target. Below is the brief look into the study of Mars by spacecraft.

On 18 November 2016, in Krakow (Poland) an opening of a meeting of the JINR Finance Committee chaired by Director of the Department of Finance of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation A.V. Zarubin was held. The meeting of the JINR Finance Committee and a session of the Committee of Plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the JINR Member States which will determine the main outlines of the development of JINR in 2017-2023.

The programme of the Finance Committee includes: a discussion of plans for research activities and priorities of the JINR budget policy in 2017, as well as the main directions of strategic development of JINR for 2017-2023. The Seven-Year Plan for Development of JINR for 2017-2023 will be considered, as well as the draft of the JINR budget for 2017 and a draft of contributions of the JINR Member States in 2018, 2019, 2020.

The milestones of the October meeting of the working group under the CP Chairman on financial issues of JINR, as well as the audit results of the JINR financial activity of 2015 will be summarized.

Reports “Trends in distributed computing and big data analytics” and “Young staff of JINR” will be heard.

A general discussion and adoption of decisions will conclude the meeting of the JINR Finance Committee on 19 November.

<http://www.jinr.ru/posts/krakow-about-development-of-jinr-in-2017-2023/>

School for teachers of physics at CERN

Education, 28 October 2016

The School for teachers of physics from the JINR Member States at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) will be held on 30 October – 6 November 2016 in Geneva, Switzerland.

Participants of the School includes lectures, visits to experimental pavilions, meetings with physicists in informal and working atmosphere and excursions. Lectures and excursions will be held in the Russian language by staff members of CERN, JINR and other Russian scientific organizations whose staff members work at CERN.

<http://teachers.jinr.ru/schools/cern2016-event-news>



- MEPHI has become the best Russian university in the field of natural sciences according to Round University Ranking (RUR).
- In RUR global ranking MEPHI took the 145th place among world universities, improving last year's result for 13 positions. Lomonosov MSU took the 205th place, Tomsk State University – 208th.
- Then in the world ranking there are MIPT (229th place), Lobachevsky State University of Nizhni Novgorod (256), Novosibirsk State University (296), Tomsk Polytechnic University (338), ITMO University (346), Ural Federal University (370), Kazan Federal University (383).
- The first place of the global ranking in the field of natural sciences is taken by the Princeton University (the USA).
- RUR Rankings Agency is a Russian rankings agency, existing since 2013. It publishes the system of university rankings Round University Ranking (RUR) and provides consulting services in raising international university competitiveness. All data for RUR Rankings is provided by company Clarivate Analytics (previously division of Thomson Reuters in scientific research and intellectual property).
- 700 universities from 74 countries of the world are represented in RUR ranking system, including 23 in Russia and 43 universities of post-Soviet countries.

<https://eng.mephi.ru/news/119520>



Research Infrastructures NCP Contact information

Dr. Marine Melkonyan (Coordinator)

Research Infrastructures NCP

National University of Science and Technology MISIS

119049 Moscow, Leninsky prospect, 4

Tel.: +7 9167079257

Fax.: +7-499-236-21-05

E-Mail: fp7-infra@misis.ru;

Web: fp7-infra.misis.ru